

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A-6

WASHINGTON POST
17 MAY 1978 STAT

CIA Used Alleged Nazis, GAO Says

Associated Press

The nation's top intelligence-gathering organizations actively recruited and used 22 persons accused of being Nazi war criminals in an effort to gain information about Eastern Europe, the General Accounting Office said yesterday.

However, the GAO said it could not determine whether any federal agency obstructed investigations of alleged

Nazi war criminals who had immigrated to the United States.

The office, while saying it was unlikely that there was any widespread federal conspiracy to protect such persons, said it "cannot absolutely rule out the possibility of undetected, isolated instances of deliberate obstruction of investigations of some alleged Nazi war criminals."

The GAO said it asked various fed-

eral agencies whether they had any contact with 111 persons selected from Immigration and Naturalization Service files who had been the subject of allegations that they were Nazi war criminals.

It noted that the allegations against these persons came from a variety of sources, including newspaper articles and referrals from members of Congress.

The GAO also said many allegations against persons in the INS files were flimsy.

The office said the Central Intelligence Agency solicited information from 20 persons accused of being Nazi war criminals and paid seven of them for their information during the period between World War II and 1963.

The office said it found the FBI used as confidential informants two persons on the 111-person list of alleged Nazi war criminals.